

Applicant : Neal A. Brown
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Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 1:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part application of and claims priority to U.S. Application Serial No. 09/697,382, filed on October 25, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,349,664, which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/213,597, filed on December 16, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,148,751.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 37, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

A marine riser that includes active boundary-layer control ("BLC") for reducing hydrodynamic drag and vortex-induced-vibration ("VIV") caused by currents. The marine riser includes at least one riser pipe surrounded by a BLC sheath. Extending through the sheath is at least one nozzle, preferably at least one pair of slot-nozzles, for discharging water into the sea in which the marine riser is deployed. The BLC sheath may be rotate-able to align a pair of slot-nozzles with the current direction, or in a fixed BLC sheath, pairs of slot-nozzles may be selectively activated based on the current direction. The BLC sheath may also include a tail-jet or retractable tail-fin. The BLC sheath may be formed from telescoping sections that decrease in diameter toward the bottom of the riser and that are nested when the telescoping sheath is retracted. Finally, a BLC system may also be implemented in for a production riser system is disclosed.